ELL Reader

Science

Science

Lights Out!

by Maxine Peters
Illustrated by John Kastner



Genre	Build Background	Access Content	Extend Language
Fiction	• Inventing • Working Together • Experiments	• Labels in Pictures • Definition in Context	• Antonyms

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The light bulb went out!
"Mama, Mama," cried the girls.
"It is dark! We cannot see!"
Mama answered, "I'll change the
light bulb."



Shaneka wants to know about light bulbs.
"Who made the very first light bulb?"
she now asks.
"A very smart person invented it!"
answers Tanya.
"And a very smart person improved it,"
says Mama.



Mama tells the girls about
Thomas Edison.
He lived a long time ago.
He was always asking questions.
He wanted to know how things worked.
He loved to try new things.

When Thomas Edison grew up, he
wanted to make a better light bulb.
He hired people to work with him.
Their first light bulb did not work well.
The light stopped working too soon.



Thomas Edison worked very hard.
He wanted to make a better light bulb.
He tried many different experiments.
An experiment is a kind of test.
It helps people learn new things.

Finally, Thomas made a light bulb that worked for a long time!
He was very smart.
He never stopped trying.
He never gave up.



The girls look at the light bulb.
They think about Thomas Edison.
They want to work hard like Thomas did.
They think it is good to be smart.

What do you think?

Talk About It

1. How did it help Thomas Edison to have other people work with him?
2. What do the girls think about Thomas Edison?

Write About It

3. On a separate sheet of paper, write a list of places where light bulbs are used for light. Examples: at schools, in streets

Extend Language

Antonyms are words that have opposite meanings. The opposite of *dark* is *light*. *Light* and *dark* are antonyms. Do you know the antonyms of these words?

out   long   wet

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